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*JPB*  
*[Signature]*  
**Bereskin & Parr**

Barristers and Solicitors/Patent and Trade Mark Agents  
Practice Restricted to Intellectual Property Law

Applicant : Jason Arnold et al.  
Appl. No : PCT/CA00/01354  
Filed : November 15, 2000  
Title : IMMERSED MEMBRANE FILTRATION  
SYSTEM AND OVERFLOW PROCESS

Grp./A.U. : 1723

Docket No. : 4320-350

RECEIVED  
DEC 20 2001  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C  
20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**In the claims:**

Please cancel claims 1 -20 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 21 - 32 as follows.

- [Handwritten mark]*
- 21.(new) A filtering reactor comprising,  
a) a tank open to the atmosphere;  
b) one or more modules of suction driven filtering membranes in the tank  
for withdrawing a filtered permeate;  
c) an inlet to add feed water to the tank; and,  
d) a retentate outlet to discharge water containing retained solids from the  
tank from above the one or more modules;  
wherein  
e) the one or more modules may be backwashed with a liquid comprising  
permeate;  
f) the one or more modules have a surface area of at least 500 square  
meters for every square meter of horizontal cross-sectional area of the  
tank; and,